



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

SANTOKI et al

Atty. Ref.: 1417-366

Serial No. 09/976,296

Group: 1773

Filed: October 15, 2001

Examiner: Rickman, Holly C.

*Handwritten signature/initials*

For: MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIUM AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE SAME

\* \* \* \* \*

April 4, 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

RESPONSE

RECEIVED  
APR - 7 2003  
IC 1700 MAIL ROOM

Responsive to the Official Action of March 17, 2003, the requirement for restriction presented in it, applicants elect the subject matter of Group I, namely claims 1-5, 8 and 9. This response is made with traverse to the extent the non-elected method claims 6 and 7 may be rejoined once the elected product claims are in condition for allowance.

Please examine the elected claims taking into account the Information Disclosure Statement filed May 7, 2002. An examination on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

*Handwritten signature of Arthur R. Crawford*  
Arthur R. Crawford  
Reg. No. 25,327

ARC:lsp  
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor  
Arlington, VA 22201-4714  
Telephone: (703) 816-4000  
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100